

For the October 7, 2003 Special Statewide Election, every voter in San Bernardino County had the same information on their ballot. However, the *order* in which the candidates appeared on the ballot was different depending on the voter's Assembly District.

The candidate's order was affected by two legally required factors: 1) random alphabetical order, and 2) rotation.

RANDOMIZED ALPHABETICAL ORDER: The standard alphabet order of A, B, C, etc. is not used. Instead, the Secretary of State conducts a randomized alphabet drawing, which becomes the basis for determining order. Pursuant to Elections Code Sections 13111 – 13113, *"...a candidate for office shall have their name printed on the ballot according to a randomized alphabet drawing by the Secretary of State. This drawing is accomplished by writing each letter of the alphabet on a separate slip of paper. It is then folded and inserted into an opaque capsule. The capsules are placed in a container and drawn one at a time. As each letter is removed, it is read aloud and written down."*

The resulting random order of letters constitutes the Randomized Alphabetical Drawing, which is to be used in determining the order of candidates by last name on the ballot. This alphabet is applied throughout the candidate's entire last name. If two candidates have surnames that start with the same letter, such as Campbell and Carlson, their order on the ballot will depend on the order in which the letters M and R are drawn.

ROTATION: After being placed in Randomized Alphabetical Order, candidates for the office of Governor must then be rotated according to Assembly District. The original order of the candidates for the race is used in the lowest numbered assembly district. Each time a rotation is required, the top candidate moves to the bottom and the others move up. If there are many rotations, a candidate may appear on the top more than once. If there are few rotations, a candidate may never appear on the top. This is all dependent upon the number of rotations and the number of candidates. Because San Bernardino County has nine Assembly Districts, there were nine different rotations resulting in nine ballot types – one for each Assembly District rotation.

[Sample Ballot Rotation 32](#)

[Sample Ballot Rotation 61](#)

[Sample Ballot Rotation 34](#)

[Sample Ballot Rotation 62](#)

[Sample Ballot Rotation 36](#)

[Sample Ballot Rotation 63](#)

[Sample Ballot Rotation 59](#)

[Sample Ballot Rotation 65](#)

[Sample Ballot Rotation 60](#)